

STEPPING OUT:

AROUND DODDINGTON'S ROADS AND BRIDLEWAYS



Moderate Terrain



A 5 mile (8km) circular walk from the village of Doddington in Lincolnshire.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This walking route includes 2.4 miles of country road walking and so is not suitable for children or dogs.

The route follows public bridleways and country roads in the distinctive countryside around Doddington, with the final stretch leading you past the fishpond and converted stables within the Doddington Hall grounds. The route is also suitable for cycling. If you wish to visit the hall and gardens after your walk, opening is limited so check on the Doddington Hall website. This walk is part of the Stepping Out network, published through a collaboration with North Kesteven District Council to inspire more people to enjoy the district's landscapes, ancient woodland, historic buildings and charming villages.

If you are looking for refreshments, Doddington Hall has its own farm shop and cafe or there are pubs a short drive away in Skellingthorpe, Eagle or Thorpe on the Hill. Nearby attractions include a few retail stores within the Doddington estate, Whisby Nature Reserve and Daisy Made Ice Cream in Skellingthorpe.

Getting there

Doddington village is located about 5 miles west of Lincoln. The walk starts and finishes at the free Doddington Hall and Gardens car park on the main B1190 road within the village. There are brown tourism signs to guide you from the A46.

Approximate post code **LN6 4RB**.

Walk Sections



Start to Lagoon T Junction

Head out of the car park towards the vehicle entrance. Just a few metres before you reach this entrance, turn right to join the stone path marked as part of the National Cycle Network. Follow this, with the road and church across to your left, and you will emerge onto a side road, Kennel Lane. Turn right along the pavement of Kennel Lane, passing a row of brick cottages on your right. Follow the pavement around two right-hand bends and past a side road, Smythson Green. From this point the pavement ends, so simply keep ahead on the quiet residential road, taking care of any access traffic.

At the end of the road, continue straight ahead to join the

Access Notes



1. The walk is relatively flat with only a few gentle gradients.
2. It follows a mix of country roads and bridleway tracks with some sections that can be muddy. Care should be taken on the roads, which account for about 2.4 miles of the route. The roads are usually not very busy, but the traffic is fast moving. There is a narrow grass verge for most of the road walking stretch which will allow you to step out of the road when cars approach, remember always to face the oncoming traffic.
3. There is no livestock and there are no stiles, gates or steps on route.
4. Please remember the Countryside code. Some paths are provided by kind permission of Doddington Hall, please only use the waymarked paths.
5. Where young stock may be present, please make sure your dog is under firm control in these areas.
6. Doddington Hall reserve the right to change/close permissive paths for health and safety reasons.
7. OS Maps Explorer 271 and 272.



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grass track signed as a public bridleway, with a tree line on your right and open fields to your left. The dense trees and hedgerow on your right make the perfect habitat for birds and, in the autumn, you are likely to see flocks of birds enjoying the berry and seed bounty. When you reach a gap within the right-hand hedgerow, take a moment to look ahead to your right (about 1 o'clock) for a lovely view of Lincoln Cathedral on the horizon.

Further along, the bridleway track continues ahead, now with a woodland on your left. Eventually, as you emerge from the woodland, you will see a large industrial plant across to your right (a rendering plant that processes animal by-products). The grass bridleway continues ahead, passing an old horse jump and one of the factory's lagoons on your right. At a fork, take the right-hand branch and a few metres later, at the end of the lagoon, you will reach a T-junction with another bridleway path.

1 → 2 Lagoon T Junction to Second Crossroads



Turn right and follow the bridleway, passing alongside a vehicle barrier and then continuing ahead through the gateway to reach an access drive. Keep ahead along the short access drive to reach a T-junction with the road. Turn right to join the pavement along Jerusalem Road. (We will be following this road for the next 2.4 miles of the route, so if you prefer to avoid road walking then it would be better to turn around and retrace your steps from the outward leg.)

Follow the pavement passing a long row of houses on your right. After this point the pavement ends, so continue walking along the right-hand edge of the road (facing the oncoming traffic) and using the grass verge to step out of the way of oncoming cars. The road is usually not very busy but the traffic is fast moving so do take care. Halfway along this stretch of road walking you will reach a crossroads with the B1190. Take particular care at the junction and go straight ahead. This road takes you around a right-hand bend and then takes you to a second crossroads.

2 → 3 Second Crossroads to Surfaced Bridleway



Once again taking extreme care, cross over and go straight ahead. Follow this road with a woodland on your left. Continue for the final half mile of road walking, passing Grange Farm on your right and continuing to reach the point where the left-hand woodland ends (and open fields begin). On the right here, you will see a fingerpost marking a public bridleway.

Turn right to join this bridleway, an unmade path which runs through the trees. Stay along the left-hand edge of the woodland belt, ignoring any cycle paths signed to the right. As you emerge from the trees, keep straight ahead to join the surfaced section of bridleway, with a hedgerow on your right and open countryside on your left.

3 → 4 Surfaced Bridleway to End



At the first stone track junction, go ahead (ignoring the track to the right). If you look diagonally left (about 10 o'clock) at this point, you will be able to see two wind turbines. Between and in front of them, you will see a small pyramid, one of the follies that sits in the parkland of Doddington Hall.

Further along, the three domes on the rooftop of Doddington Hall come into view just above the hedgerow. Doddington Hall is a very fine late Elizabethan Mansion, completed in 1600. It was built by Robert Smythson for Thomas Tailor, who was the registrar to the Bishop of Lincoln, and has enjoyed more than 400 years of unbroken family occupation.

Eventually you will emerge to a T-junction with a concrete track within the parkland. If you glance to your right here and you will see the pretty arched bridge across the fishpond. Fork right to join the concrete track and follow this uphill. You will pass the fishpond on your right and then pass between various estate buildings that have been converted into accommodation, shops



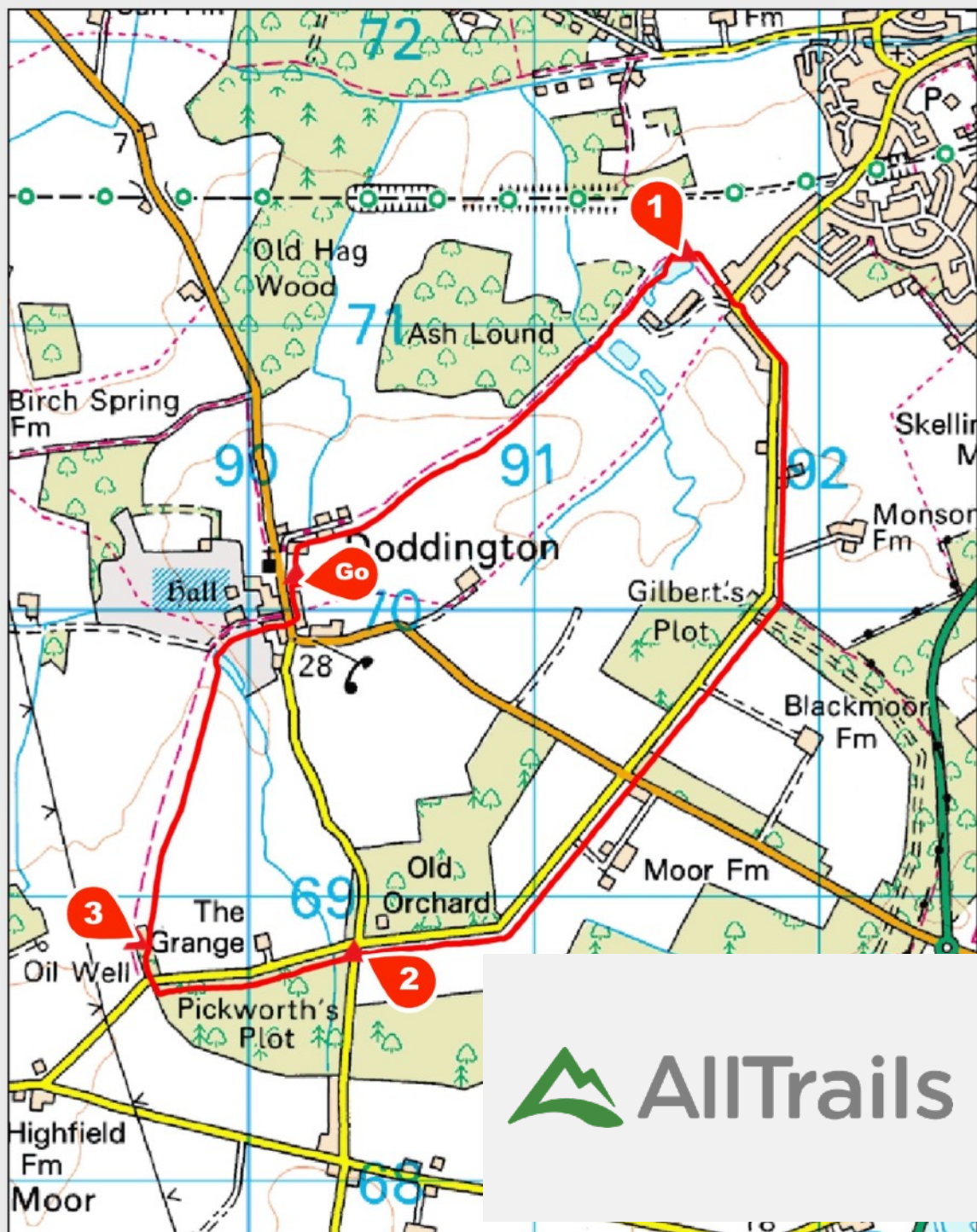
and workshops. You will emerge to a junction with the road.
Turn left along the pavement to reach Doddington Hall on your left and the car park where the walk began on your right.

Disclaimer

This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and a map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.



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